NEWS

Planning Board to Reopen Waterfield Lot Public Hearing

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

August 19, 2023 . 8:40 PM — 2 min read

By Richard Rohan

Here is a run-down of the Planning Board's agenda for their next on Tuesday evening, August 22. The meeting will be remote access, so

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those who may want to participate in the public comment section should connect via Zoom using the link published in the agenda which can be found
here. https://winchester.us/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_08222023-5060

Those who don't feel the need to participate can view the meeting at WinCam.Org on their live stream or at a later date on their YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/@officialWinCAM

Note: This will be the first Planning Board meeting for Taylor Herman, the newly hired Winchester Town Planner who began work on August 14.

Meeting Agenda:

- 7:15PM Open Meeting / Updates

On August 17, the Executive Office for Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) issued a second revision of the guidelines for compliance with the MBTA communities' section 3A zoning overlay mandate to include mixed-use development district. This revision could be of interest to Winchester since so many parcels in the section 3A compliance zone of a half mile radius of the Winchester Center MBTA station are already zoned for mixed-use commercial and residential.

From the executive summary of the revisions:

"In response to feedback from municipal leaders in several MBTA communities, EOHLC is revising the Guidelines to offer MBTA communities a path to receive some credit for mixed-use development zoning districts."

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https://www.mass.gov/info-details/summary-of-081723-revisions-to-section-3a-guidelines

- Approve Meeting Minutes for: July 17, 2023, July 18, 2023, and August 8, 2023

- 7:30PM Continued Public Hearing for Waterfield Lot Development. Center Business District (CBD) permit #18

- Public Comments

The Planning Board will be considering scope and fees proposals from Toole Design (for traffic impact and access) and Weston and Sampson (for sewer, stormwater, and water system) as Section 53G Consultants (53G refers to the section of Massachusetts General Laws that controls the hiring of outside consultants) to conduct a peer review on the Waterfield Lot Development application. Section 53G consultants are hired by the Town but their fee is paid by the applicant.

- 8:10PM North Main Street Design Guidelines and Zoning and MBTA 3A Design Guidelines and Zoning Consultants Proposal Scope

The Planning Board will be considering a proposed scope and fee from Emily Innes of Innes Associates www.innes-design.com and Michael Wang and John Rufo of Form + Place https://www.formandplace.com to assist the Board in writing zoning bylaws and design guidelines for both North Main Street and for the MBTA 3A zoning overlay district for presentation to 2024 Spring Town Meeting.

- 8:40PM Update on ADU Bylaw Section 3.2.2 Amendment for 2023 Fall Town Meeting

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- 9:00PM Goals and Objectives for Town Planner Taylor Herman

- 9:45PM Adjourn

Future meeting dates

Tuesday, September 12 at 7:15PM Planning Board Meeting, Remote Participation

Tuesday, September 26 at 7:15PM Planning Board Meeting, Remote Participation

Richard Rohan is a precint 2 Town Meeting Member.

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Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering

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The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed affordability legislation that would result in

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and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

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over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 years. The bill maintains critical

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Winchester gun owners face new training rules starting April 2

Public safety data How Winchester compares on firearms licenses in comparable Massachusetts communities Active licenses as of Jan. 25, 2025 — Source: Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board License to carry firearms Firearms identification card Winchester and Marblehead are the focus communities. Peers selected based on comparable population size, demographics and suburban

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Sen. Jason Lewis, Mass. Senate strengthen fair housing protections for renters, buyers

The following was submitted by the Office of Sen. Jason Lewis: State Sen. Jason Lewis joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation that protects residents from discrimination in the housing market as the Trump administration abandons its enforcement of the federal Fair Housing Act. Illegal discrimination continues

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The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

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Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

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By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester

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The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On

High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

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Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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